

**EXHIBIT A**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: Santosh S. ARCOT

Application No.: 09/931,449

Art Unit: 1634

Filed: August 16, 2001

Examiner: Frank Wei Min Lu

For: MICROSPHERE BASED  
OLIGONUCLEOTIDE LIGATION  
ASSAYS, KITS, AND METHODS OF  
USE, INCLUDING HIGH-  
THROUGHPUT GENOTYPING

Attorney Docket No.: 215063.02901

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants in the aforementioned matter petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated November 7, 2002, Paper Number 10, for three months from February 7, 2003 to May 7, 2003.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C., office by telephone at (202) 625-3500. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

**AUTHORIZATION**

Please find enclosed a check in the amount of \$465.00 for payment of the extension fee. Applicants believe there is no additional fee due in connection with this filing. However, to the

extent required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees due in connection with this filing to Deposit Account 50-1710 or credit any overpayment to same.

Respectfully submitted,



Gilberto M. Villacorta, PH.D.

Registration No. 34,038

Serge Sira

Registration No. 39,445

Robert R. Seabold, PH.D.

Registration No. 41,298

Patent Administrator  
KATTEN MUCHIN ZAVIS ROSENMAN  
525 West Monroe Street, Suite 1600  
Chicago, Illinois 60661-3693  
Facsimile: (312) 902-1061

Dated: May 2, 2003